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A
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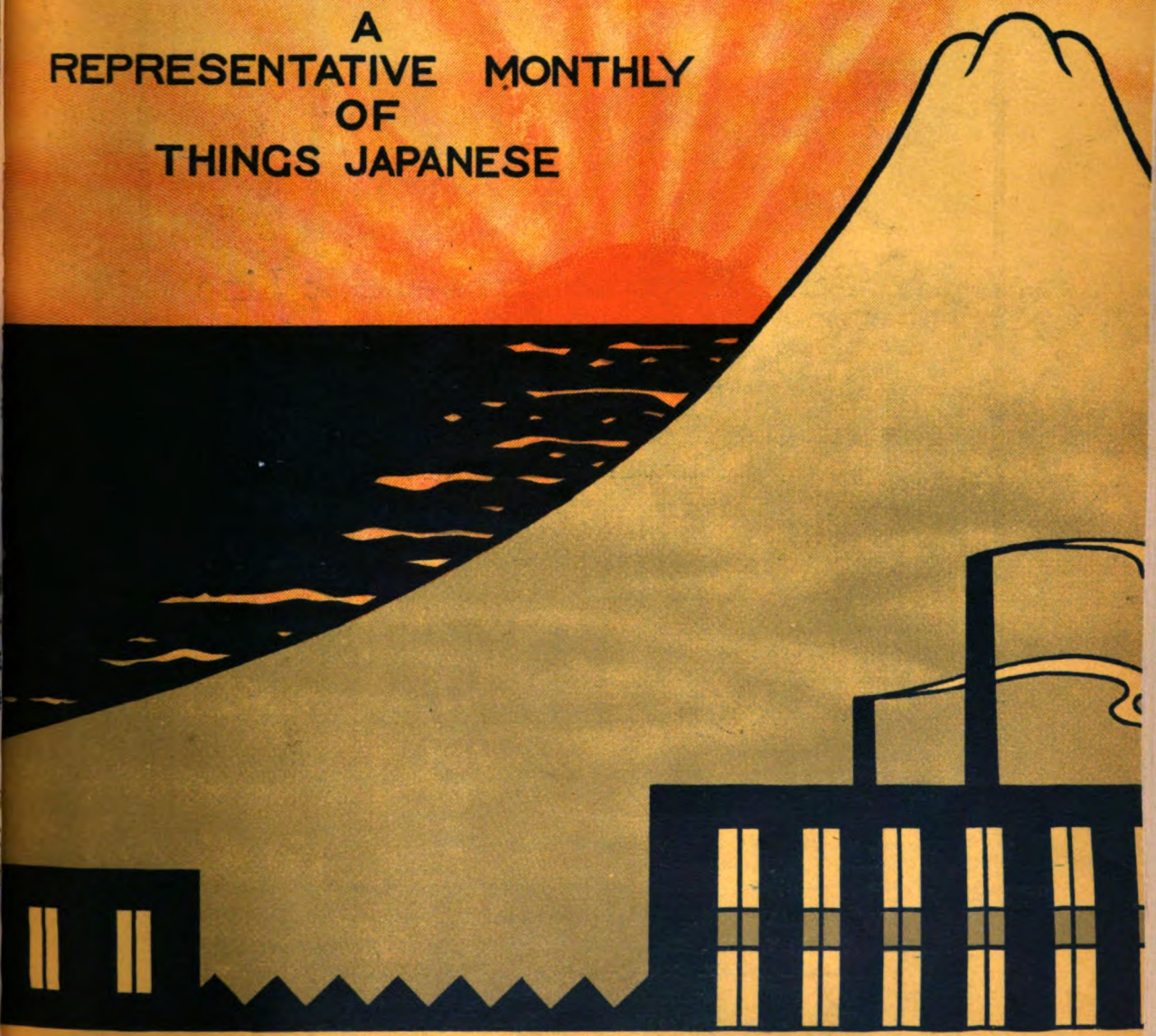

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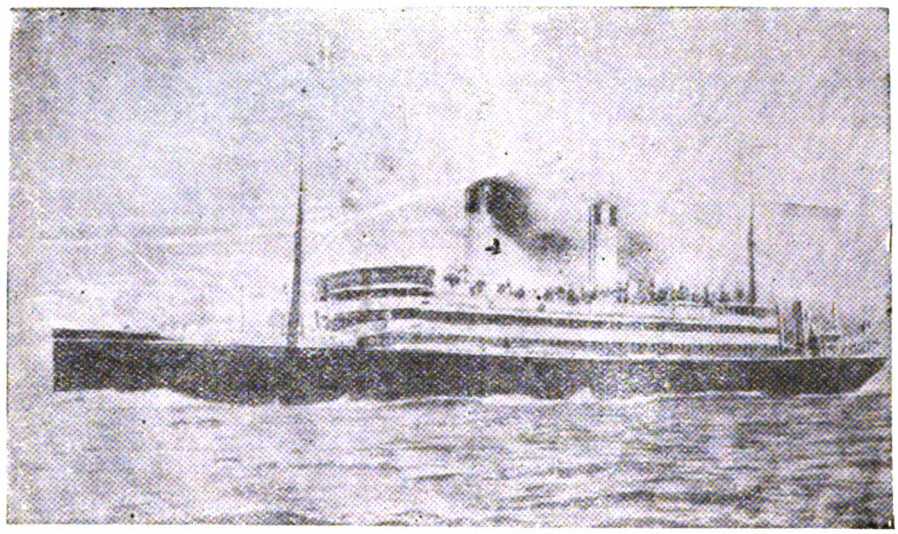

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

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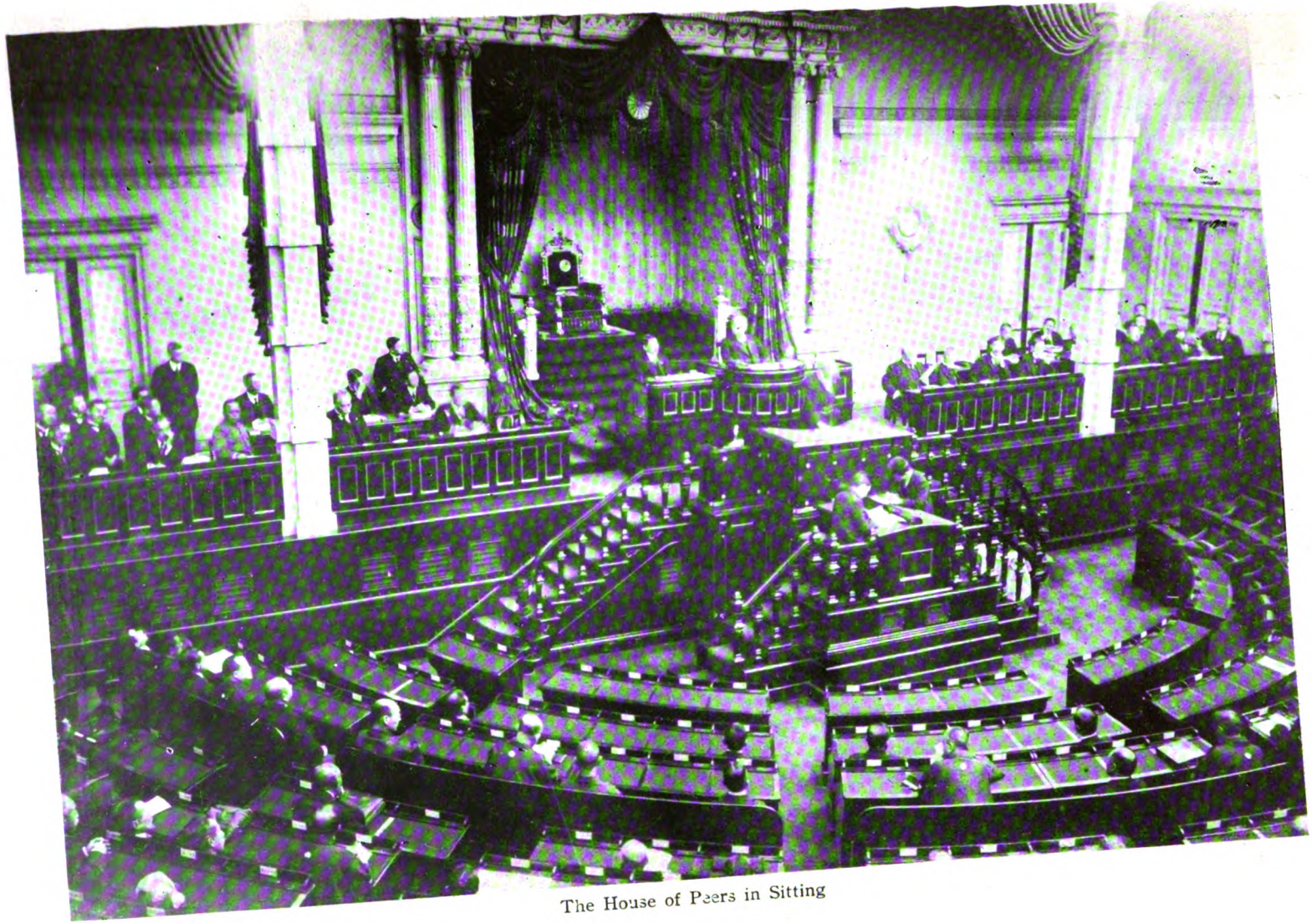

The House of Peers in Sitting

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Signing the Russo-Japanese Entente at the Japanese Legation, Peking, China

Farewell Banquet Given in Honour of Son Excellence Monsieur P. Claudel,
the French Ambassador at Tokyo.
From Right to Left: M. Claudel, Mr. K. Takahashi, etc.

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H. H. Prince and Princess Kuni, Junior in the Wedding Ceremony

Marquis and Marchioness Mayeda in their Wedding Ceremony

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Kindergarten Pupils Dancing

Play at Snowballing by Girl Students

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

VOL. XVII FEBRUARY, 1925 No. VI

The Month In Progress

THE EDITOR'S DIARY

JAN. 16.—The Tokyo Imperial University lost many buildings and much equipment, never to be replaced, in the earthquake. Above all, the destruction of its library of 700,000 books aroused the world's sympathy, and about 250,000 books have so far been presented to it by foreign Governments, educational institutions and individuals, besides the Japanese. Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., of New York has contributed 4,000,000 yen towards the cost of building the University library and the University has gratefully accepted the offer.

The recent census taken in Yokohama gives its population as 389,700, including 207,000 men and 182,700 women.

Jan. 17.—Returns of the Tokyo Municipal Social Bureau show that in August, 1924, the total number of working women in Japan amounted to something like 3,600,000, about 13 per cent. of the total population of women in the country, including 1,300,000 farmers, 1,000,000 miners, 400,000 mental workers and 400,000 business women.

The first foreign school has been established in Yokohama since the earthquake at the instance of some foreign Consuls. It is named the Yokohama International School.

Professor Narusawa of the Hamamatsu Normal School is reported to have invented a silencer for airplane motors, and to have got a patent for it, after hard toil and application for ten years. The young inventor is working out an invention of a torpedo of unfailing aim.

Jan. 18.—The Military Artillery and Engineering School was destroyed by fire to-day at about 1 A.M.

Jan. 19.—A purely Japanese house of present day style is to be erected in the grounds of the International Decorative Fine Arts Exhibition to be held in Paris from April 15th, in which Japanese exhibits are to be properly arranged.

Jan. 20.—The building of the widest Japanese national road is nearly completed in Kanagawa Prefecture. It is about 60 feet in width.

Jan. 22.—Death is reported of Mr. S. Kubota, the President of the Oriental Colonization Co. Ltd., at 4.15 A.M. to-day. A man of exceptional ability, he was the Mayor of Yokohama before he took the presidency of the above company. He was a man of bright future.

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The Metroplolitan Police Office has given out a table showing the principal causes of fires occuring in Tokyo in the past three years. According to it, the fusing of electric wires stands at the head of the list, being followed by chimney sparks, cigarette stubs, incendiarism and oil in the order named.

Jan. 23.—The *Asuka-Maru*, the first heavy oil motor boat of the 10,000 ton class, will arrive at Yokohama shortly from Scotland to the order of the N.Y.K. She is of the up-to-date system with 8 motors of 6 cylinders, 4,000 H. P. Her isstership *Atago-Maru* is being built.

The much-talked-of Japanese-Russian Convention was at last signed at Peking at 2 A.M. on the 21st.

It is projected officially to build a large old people's home at a cost of about 4,000,000 yen at Tsurumi, near Yokohama.

Swimming of Girls in the Cold Season

Jan. 24.—Post office insurance shows a marked increase. At the beginning of this year, it stood at 6,109,487, representing the value of 764,697,074 yen, an increase of 1,274,587 policies and 189,626,635 yen in value over the same date, 1924. The authorities are intent upon increasing the total value to 1,000,000,000 yen by October, 1926, the tenth anniversary of the creation of the system.

Jan. 25.—It has been arranged between the Russo-Japanese Mutual Aid Society and the Russian Government to hold fine arts exhibition in Moscow this year and in Tokyo, in May, next year, about 150 pictures and engravings by first rate Japanese artists being sent to Russia and a number of those by prominent contemporary Russian artists to Tokyo. The projectors hope to cultivate friendship between the two countries, taking advantage of the resumption of their diplomatic relations.

Kan-o Fujima, one of the greatest dancers in Japan, died at the age of 86 on the 23rd. Matsumoto Koshiro, one of the most famous actors in Japan, is his adopted son.

Jan. 26.—A fire broke out at Senju, near Tokyo at 1.50 A. M. on the 25th. A gale prevailing, the flames soon spread in all directions. It was brought under control at 4.30 A.M. after destroying 121 houses. The total loss is estimated at about one million yen.

Jan. 27.—The Home Department has decided to build a typical sanitary village

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after a model in America the cost being estimated at about 200,000 yen, to be defrayed over five consecutive years.

Jan. 28.—A big band-stand is being erected in Asakusa Park, Tokyo at a cost of 60,000 yen. The first concert will be held in the spring of next year.

The European and Asiatic transcontinental connection via Siberia is being re-opened in March next as a result of the Russo-Japanese Convention. Preparations are being made by the railway authorities here for facilitating foreign visitors by that route, most of whom will land at Shimonoseki via Manchuria.

The Mexican Minister Starting for Home on Leave of Absence

The bridges destroyed by the earthquake fire have been rebuilt more quickly than other works of re-construction. It is said that the Nihom-bashi and the Kyo-bashi will be left in their present condition with the parapets damaged to commemorate the catastrophe and as a reminder in the centre of the Metropolis.

Jan. 29.—The text of the new Japanese-Russian treaty was carried to Tokyo by Mr. Iijima, a diplomatic probationer, from Peking, at 12.15 P.M. on the 28th. It is in English and covers about 30 pages.

Jan. 30.—The Foreign Office and the Russo-Japanese Association are studying means for emmigration to Siberia, dealing with the question of the overpopulation of Japan, as an outcome of the Russo-Japanese entente. The Russians and Chinese are not suitable for the cultivation of Siberia, for they cannot work in water, while the land easily may be made into good paddy fields, with an abundant supply of water. For this, the Japanese are thought to be best suited.

Jan. 31.—It snowed on the 30th. The snow fell to a depth of about a foot, breaking the record for the past forty years for that date.

Feb. 1.—This morning the temperature was the lowest experienced in the past several years, registering 8.60 below zero in Tokyo.

Feb. 2.—It has been decided to preserve the *Mikasa* in the harbour of Yokosuka.

The Japan Women Pharmacists' Association met on the 1st and discussed the proposal to memorialize the Government for controlling by law the selling of dry milk, on the ground that some dry milk in the market is so bad and has so little nutritive value that it is believed to be

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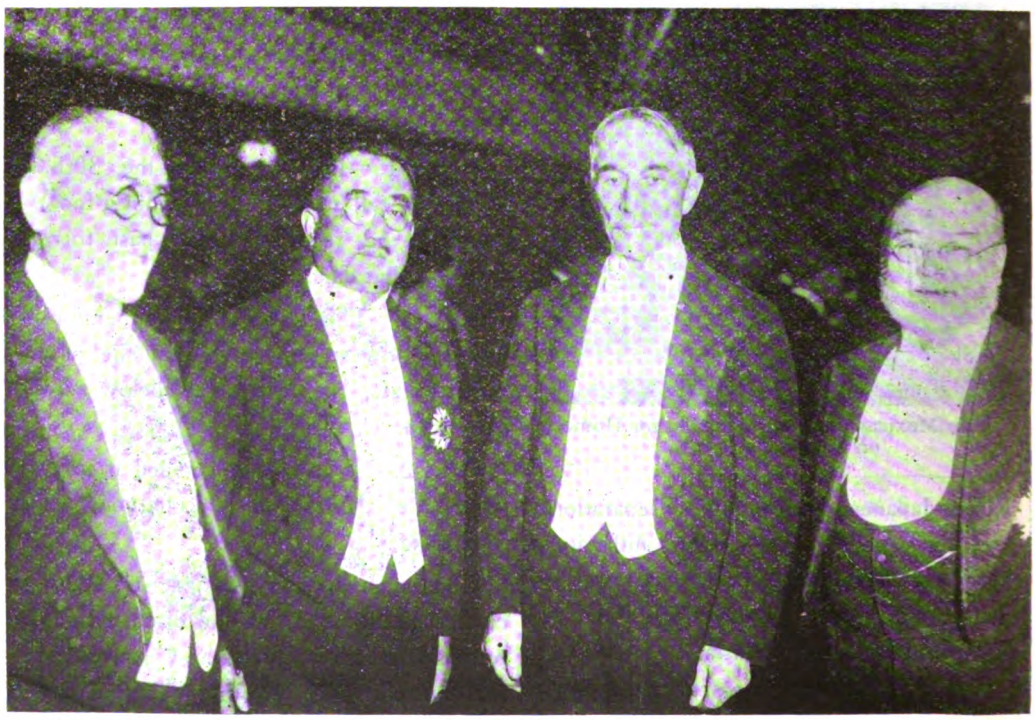
partly responsible for the increased death rate of infants.

Feb. 4.—The *Koreya-Maru* struck her bow against the end of No. 6 quay of the Yokohama Customs at 1.30 P.M. on the 3rd while she was being brought alongside with the result that the bow was bent in over an area of 6 feet by 20 feet. The damage is estimated at about 150,000 yen and it will take about a month to repair it. The passengers and cargo were transferred to other steamers. Mr. Matsudaira, the new Japanese Ambassador at Washington, who was booked by the steamer, has had to put off his departure.

Feb. 5.—Mr. S. Yokota, the Minister of Justice, died at 5.55 P.M. on the 4th. He took cold at the end of January and it developed and proved fatal, as his heart was weakened. A man of strong will, the deceased was apprenticed to a dry goods store in his boyhood in Ashikaga, his native place. Later, he came to Tokyo with the ambitious desire to study, and attended a law school while he acted as a newsboy early in the morning. Soon, he got employment in the office of Mr. Toru Hoshi, an influential member of the Liberal Party, which was the ladder to his success. He won his master's confidence and helped him ably after graduation from the law school. He gradually rose to prominence as a politician and became a leading member of the Seiyu-kai, until he took the portfolio of Minister of Justice as the representative of that political party.



Farewell Banquet Given in Honour of Mr. T. Matsudaira, the New Japanese Ambassador to Washington.

From Left to Right: Viscount Goto, Mr. Matsudaira, Mr. Bancroft, American Ambassador and Mr. Takahashi, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce

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Mr. Takahashi, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, was appointed the interim Minister of Justice, in succession to Mr. Yokota.

Feb. 5.—The number of private aviators in Japan is increasing yearly and amounts at present to 161, of which about 50 are actually engaged in regular aviation, in the inspection of machines and in the training of aviators, the remainder being idle without regular work to do.

Feb. 6.—It is announced that the Japanese-Russian mail service has been re-established.

Feb. 7.—Messrs. Y. Muto, G. Masuda and S. Yoshiuye, M. Ps., have introduced in the Diet a resolution in favour of the prompt lifting of the export ban on gold.

Feb. 8.—The funeral of the late Mr. S. Yokota, the Minister of Justice, was held to-day at the Aoyama Cemetery. It was attended by about 3,000 mourners, including the Cabinet ministers and other dignitaries.

Feb. 10.—The scrapped warship *Tosa* was sunk off the Mizunokoshima Light House at 7 A.M. on the 9th.

Feb. 11.—It has been decided to erect a public hall in Hibiya Park at a cost of 3,000,000 yen. It will begin to be built this autumn and will be completed in the summer of 1927. It will cover an area of 880 *tsubo*. Its basement will be used as a cinematograph-hall, a swimming bath and a restaurant under Municipal management, its first floor will be rented to firms as show-rooms and its second floor will be used as a public hall, capable of accommodating 2,500 men.

Feb. 13.—Japan in the winter is being photographed by the Imperial Government Railway for the purpose of sending the films to the principal European and American railways and steamship companies and attracting foreign tourists to this country. The pictures represent winter views of Mount Fuji, other mountains, lakes, skiing, snow-ploughing on railway lines, etc.

Mr. Bancroft, the new American Ambassador, worshipped at the Meiji Shine yesterday, accompanied by an interpreter. Led into the inner shrine, by the Shinto priests, he stood uncovered in front of it, and bowed gravely just as the Japanese do, apparently praying in silence for a while. He told a newspaper man that he was glad to worship at the great shrine as a representative of the United States on the *Kigensetsu* (the Anniversary of the Accession of the Emperor Jimmu).

Feb. 13.—Dr. Nitobe, who came bake to Japan at the end of last year after an absence for six years, left Tokyo on the 12th again for Geneva, accompanied by his family.

Dr. Nitobe Starting for Geneva

Feb. 15.—The agitation for woman suffrage is growing heated. There are three women's societies agitating for it.

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The Actualities of China and Her Relations with Japan

By Marquis Komura

1. The General Situation.—Not a few people, who observe China superficially, speak pessimistically of her future as well of the past 14 years of republican government, during which she has been in a state of complete chaos. We must not overlook, however, many things, which have been progressing and developing constantly behind the scenes of disturbances. These inside facts must not be forgotten by those wishing to coexist or co-operate with China either politically or economically. It is true that China is extremely disturbed. But that is simply political; and socially and economically, she has been making steady progress and development. The masses have been gaining in power steadily step by step, while the political men have had constant ups and downs.

2. The Chaotic Political Situation.—It is 14 years since China took the republican form of government, and in that period, her political situation has been extremely chaotic far from being unified not only in form but substantially. except for about two years under Mr, Yuan-Si-Kai.

During that period, there have been thirty-six changes in the Chinese Ministry, and all but three Cabinets, which outlived one year, fell in less than a year and some even in one month or so. In the interval there have been seven presidential changes, notwithstanding the provision of the Chinese Constitution limiting the term of the presidency to five years with one term of reeligibility. None of these Presidents has served out his term, all having been compelled to step out by political changes. The same construction provides for the term of membership in the Congress to be 3 years and that in the Senate to be 6 years. But the present parliamentary members elected in the first year of Republic have been 14 years in office with the term of representation extended repeatedly as a result of the political changes, which interfered with the functions of the national assemblies. Recently, their term at last came to an end and a general election was to have been held had not the civil war broken out, which obstructed it and compelled the members, whose terms had expired, to remain in office until the next election. The war has expelled the President and has put the national assembly practically in a state of dissolution. The Central Government is now temporarily directed by Marshal Tuan Chi-jui with Dr. Sun Yat-sen and others.

It is said that there is already a conflict of opinion in the Government. Moreever, Central Government orders are not yet quite obeyed in the provinces. Practically, the land is still left in the condition that a crowd of influential men hold their ground and struggle for supremacy; and it is beyond comprehension when the present unsettled political state of things will be stabilized.

3. Economic Progress of Development.—The Chinese Republic has thus been in chaos since its foundation, and its unification and pacification cannot be hoped for in the near future. Despite such political disturbances, the economic

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conditions in China have made yearly progress and development. This is noteworthy. It is a special condition in China that the so-called military cliques, active in politics, and politicians form quite a different society from the people, active in the economic world, there being almost no connection between these political and business men. Lately, there has been a tendency among the business men to take an active part in the political world in the name of chambers of commerce or other economic associations, with an increase in the influence of the masses. Still these efforts have been made simply in the direction of agitation for peace, few being involved in political strife. Wars and political strife in China are simply events among the military cliques and politicians, however severe they may be, and the people in the economic world look on them as a matter of no concern and are diligent in their business, which resembles a condition existing in Japan in feudal times, when the soldiers and traders belonged to different societies. Whatever political strife and war may occur, that is no concern of theirs, for it is political disturbances, which involve only the fortune of the politicians. Trade or industry is suspended unavoidably for a while during war, but as soon as the cause of the obstruction is removed, it is restored. During the past thirteen years of Chinese Republic, there have been endless internal troubles in the country, but they have been local. In such a huge country as China, despite a local war, however severe, the people in other parts, other than the political interests, are diligent in their callings, looking on it quite unconcernedly. Some foreign people may conceive that the whole of China has been disturbed. But that is quite erroneous, and in fact, it has been only local events fussed about by the political section of the local people. In the meantime, the economic conditions of the country have been making steady headway yearly.

In the first place, we must note a marked development attained by the oversea trade of China, which may be seen from the following table showing its value during the first ten years of the Chinese Republic:—

From the above table, it may be seen that the total value of foreign trade of the country nearly doubled from 843,617,434 Customs taels to 1,507,377,976 Customs taels in the ten years ending 1921. The volume for the 12th year of the Republic amounted to 1,676,320,303 taels, an increase of 76,378,720 taels over the preceding year, the imports showing a loss of about 23,000,000 taels and the exports a gain of about 100,000,000 taels. The condition of trade of China with Japan may be mentioned on the basis of Chinese Customs returns as follows:—

Year	Imports Customs Taels	Exports Customs Taels	Total Customs Taels
1st Year of Republic (1912)	473,097,031	370,520,403	843,617,434
2nd „ „ (1913)	570,162,554	403,305,546	973,468,103
3rd „ „ (1914)	569,241,382	356,226,629	925,468,011
4th „ „ (1915)	454,475,710	418,881,164	873,336,883
5th „ „ (1916)	516,406,995	481,797,366	998,204,361
6th „ „ (1917)	547,518,774	462,931,630	1,012,450,404
7th „ „ (1918)	554,893,082	485,883,031	1,040,776,113
8th „ „ (1919)	646,997,681	630,809,411	1,277,807,092
9th „ „ (1920)	762,250,230	541,631,390	1,303,881,530
10th „ „ (1921)	906,122,439	601,255,537	1,507,377,976

Year	Imports Taels	Exports Taels	Total Taels
1912 (1st Year of Republic)	92,016,652	55,262,004	146,278,656
1921 (10th „ „)	210,399,237	172,110,728	382,469,656

The trade of China with Japan amounted in total to 382,460,965 taels in the 10th year of the Republic (1921), taking up 25.37 per cent. of the international trade of the country for the year and denoting an increase of nearly two times and half as much as the figure for the first year of the Republic. These figures are illustrative of the remarkable development made yearly by Chinese trade.

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Looking then into the condition of industry in China, it may be noted that it has also attained marked development, especially in the lines of spinning, flour milling, match making, sericulture, and sock and stocking, handkerchief and soap making. In the third year of the Republic, the number of spinning mills in China amounted to 32 with 970,000 spindles, but in the tenth year the number stood at 113 with 3,266,000 spindles. There are at present 123 flour mills with the aggregate capital of 15,000,000 *yuen*. The importation of wheat flour decreased from 2,060,000 piculs a year before the World War to 510,000 piculs in the 9th year of the Republic, while its exportation increased from 140,000 piculs in the 2nd year of the Republic to 3,960,000 piculs. The volume of machinery imported illustrates the extent of industrial development of a country, and in China, it increased from 4,650,000 taels in the 2nd year of the Republic to 23,280,000 taels in the 9th year.

There were at the end of 10th year of the Republic 62 Chinese banks in the country, of which all were established since the republicanization, except 6, which were founded in the Sin dynasty, at the ratio of 4 in the 1st year of the Republic, 2 in the 2nd year, 1 in the third year, 3 in the 4th year, 1 in the 5th year, 5 in the 6th year, 8 in the 7th year, 8 in the 8th year, 8 in the 9th year, and 16 in the 10th year. This is another notable thing telling how the Chinese economic world has developed remarkably of late. The total number of companies registered in the Chinese Agricultural and Commercial Department were only 146 with the aggregate capital of 41,148,200 *yuen* before the European War but the number stood at 418 with the aggregate capital of 158,582,700 *yuen* in the 9th year of the Republic. Besides, there was a large number of companies established in foreigners' names in China under foreign laws.

4. The Influence of the Masses.— One thing, which stands out most conspicuous in China, is the striking growth of the influence of the masses. In saving the recent situation, it was agree that due respect should be paid to popular will in so doing and a national conference should be convened for that purpose. Every thoughtful man in China has become sensible of the impossibility of successfully ruling the country without due respect to the popular will, and by this, the influence of the masses has come to act more powerfully than ever on every sphere of society. This must be said to be a great political change in China. The government of China has been always inclined towards dogmatism and despotism, her history showing adherence to a policy of popular oppression by her successive rulers. The recent diffusion of education, the development of popular knowledge and the introduction of European and American thoughts of popular rights and other new thoughts have, however, changed gradually the old ideas among the Chinese people politically and socially; and the Government authorities have become unable to disregard this new influence. The latest most remarkable example is the loss of influence of extreme militarism. Even the great Yuan-Si-kai was unsuccessful in unifying the military cliques. His successors likewise have been unsuccessful.

There may have been various complicated circumstances underlying the failure of these statesmen, and essentially, it may be considered as an outcome of the power of the masses opposing the unification of the military cliques working behind anti-militarism. An old idea in China is that the country is not of one ruler, but of the people. The old autocrafts of China maintained their sovereignty by suppressing this idea. An ancient Emperor burnt the country's books and buried the students alive in order to bring pressure upon the power of the multitude. In olden times, however, this popular power was confined to the scholors and students, and other people were nearly unconcerned. It was, therefore, possible to put down that power. Today, power has grown so great and extensive among the people at large as an outcome of their intellectual development that it is almost impossible to coerce them thoroughly into submission by whatever force, and on the contrary, there has

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been a remarkably increased tendency among the central and local statesmen to be so influenced by the power of the masses that their actions are ruled by it.

5. Relations between Japan and China.—The unsettled political situation in the country is, however, very unhappy for it, and moreover, its economic progress and development is only a question of degree. The settlement of the political situation and the cooperation of the Government and people for the encouragement of trade and industry will quicken that progress and development. The political disturbances have badly affected things in educational, traffic and other directions. They have also had a bad effect on China's relations with foreign countries. At the Washington Conference, for instance, the powers participating in it passed a resolution in favour of the abolition of the extraterritoriality in China in future, to appoint an investigation commission preparatory for it and to convene a special tariff conference in order to effect an increase in the Chine Customs tariff revenue. But the carrying out of these resolutions has been retarded thus far directly and indirectly by the unsettled political situation in the country. The effect this political situation may work on the Chinese state finances is by no means light when the country is having extreme difficulty in paying the principle and interest of its foreign and domestic loans, which stand at about 2,100,000,000 yen in the aggregate. It is most important that China should be united and her political situation stablized for the benefit of herself and also for the sake of the world's peace, and it is to be most earnestly hoped that it will be realized at the soonest possible date.

Japan is small in area but comparatively large in population, which is increasing about 650,000 a year on an average. Moreover, the is unfortunately short of a domestric supply of natural products, the yield of rice, which is her most important food, even falling under the demand by about 4,000,000 *koku* a year. In the direction of food, clothing and habitation, too, she is far from being self-supporting. In the circumstances, she has to get a large quantity of commodities from foreign lands to make up for the shortage. Her big neighbour, China, is nearly 25 times as large as Japan in area, and is rich in natural products. The best way for the future of Japan would, therefore, be to get a great variety of raw materials from that country by means of a true understanding of the Chinese Government and people, making the best use of our industrial development towards the goal of the establishment of our country on an industrial basis. The average yearly amount of Japanese products exported to China in the past three years was something like 400,000,000 yen in value, 27 per cent. of Japan's total export trade. while the average yearly volume of Chinese products imported into Japan in the same period was about 310,000,000 yen in vaiue, sharing 15 per cent. of Japan's total import trade. From this it may be clearly understood that the two countries are in very close economic relations and must be brought into closer touch. It is regrettabie, however, that while it is so important to bring about a better economic approachement between the two countries, it is felt that the two countries have not been able to sufficiently join hands in the promotion of their mutual economic interests. There are different historical and political causes for this. The Japanese people must make a point of meeting and dealing with the Chinese people with sincerity and without discrimination, with a view to benefitting themselves as well as the Chinese; and especially, those Japanese, who personally take active interest in the economic world of China, must always bear in mind that they must profit the Chinese, the owners of the land, at first and then profit themselves; otherwise it will be impossible for us to work economically in concert with China, advantageously and truly. As we must not be aggressive politically so we should not be invasive economically. We must foster a common existence and common prosperity. Essentially, the two peoples must thoroughly understand each other's standpoint, interests and sentiment, and respect each other.

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The Dancing Movements of the "No" Dance

By Mark King

THE dancing of the "No" dance is a dance principally for the Protagonist (Shite) accompanied by the flute, the large and small hand-drums. The dance is not accompanied by any singing. The dancing movements of the "No" dance are as follows:—

(1) "Jo-no-Mai" (the First Dance) is performed in a slow, gentle, and stately manner, with or without the accompaniment of a drum.

(2) "Chu-no-Mai" (the Mediocre Dance) is neither fast nor slow, sometimes danced with a drum, sometimes without.

(3) "Otoko-Mai" (the Male Dance) is a quick step for a male-dancer, not for a dancer who takes the part of a lady.

(4) "Kami-Mai" (the God's Dance) is a dance to the Gods, and it is a quick step accompanied by a drum.

(5) "Haya-Mai" (the Rapid Dance) is also a dance to the Gods, one of the "Kami-Mai."

(6) "Tennyo-no-Mai" (the Fairy Dance) is a light and airy performance, and is danced by the Companion (Tsure).

(7) "Kagura" (the Sacred Dance) is a dance to the Godess.

(8) "Gaku" is a musical dance.

(9) "Midare" is a dance of rather confused movements.

(10) "Shishi" (the Lion) is another of the "Midare" dance, and is danced with great fury and rapid, leaping movements.

(11) "Mai-Hataraki" is a dance of simple, but wavelike quick steps.

(12) "Kakeri" (the Soaring Dance) is a dance like a bird on the wing, we find it in the Carnage and the Ogress Dances of the "No" dance.

(13) "Ha-no-Mai" is a dance of quick, and broken steps.

(14) "Kyu-no-Mai" is one of the wavelike quick step dances.

(15) "Kakko" is a musical dance.

(16) "Iroye" is also a musical dance.

(17) "Inori" is a solemn dance of prayer to the Gods.

(18) "Ko-Mai" (the Simple Dance) for the "Kyo-Gen" (the Farce or Comedietta) should be danced during his recitation of the "Kyo-Gen." There are several rôles in the "Kyō-gen":—"Omo" for the Brotagonist (Shité), and "Ado" for the Deutagonist (Waki); the performer is generally called by the names of "Tarō-Kanja" for the old elder man, and "Jirō-Kanja" for the second or youngest man. The "Kyō-Gen" is a comedietta originated in the "Saru-Gaku" dance which was much in vogue at the time of the Ashikaga dynasty about 600 years ago. The Farce (Comedietta) should be performed by the actor during the Interval (Entr'acte) of the "No" dance when the First Protagonist (Maye-Shité) leaves the stage and the Second Portagonist (Nochi-Shité) appears. It is a comedy, and the actor should recite the outline of the "No" dance which will be performed by the Second Protagonist after the Interval. There are 160 farces—the "Bō-Shibari" (the "Binding to a Pole"), and the "Sannin-Katawa" (the "Three Deformed Persons"), etc—written by Kitabatake-Gené-Hōin, a priest of the Hiyeizan (Ohmi Province), who died in the year 1344. Hiyoshi-Yaheé was instructed in the farce dance by Kitabatabe-Gené-Hōin, and his school was called the "Ohkura"; Chomei-Gonnojo's school was called the "Sagi"; and

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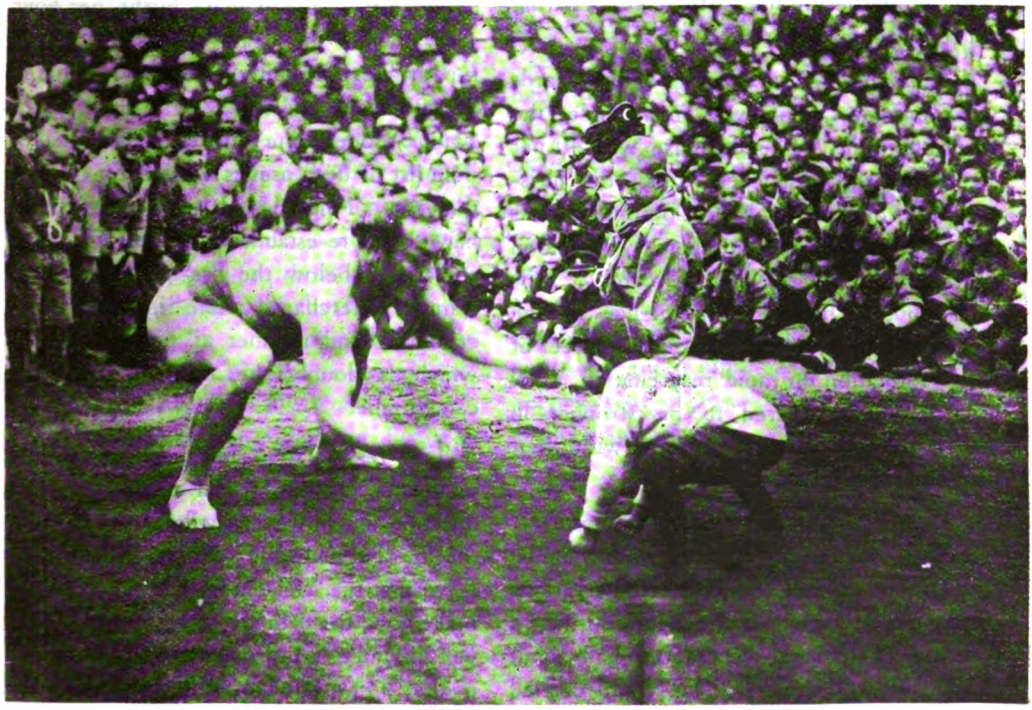
Yamawaki-Idzumi's school was called the "Idzumi."

(19) "Kaye-no-Kata" is a metamorphosis of the Protagonist's dance. He changes his costume before appearing in a new scene. Each "No" dance has a metamorphosis for the Portagonist to dance in a new costume.

(20) "Kusé" is a part of the "No" dance, and called the "Kusé Dance" which was much in vogue in ancient times. Each "No" dance has the "Kusé Dance" in it, and it called the gist or the most essential part of the dance. There are two different styles in the dancing of the "Kusé Dance":—"I-Gusé" and "Mai-Gusé." The "I-Gusé" which is to be sung the song, which accompanies it, slowly and gently, by the Protagonist who is sitting on the stage or the tabouret; the "Mai-Gusé" (or the "Tachi-Gusé") which is to be sung lightly by the Chorus while the Protagonist is dancing. There are three important movements in the "Kusé Dance":—the dance from the beginning to the "Uchi-Kiri" (the First Period) is called "Jo" (the First Dance) which is slowly and gently performed; the next dance from the "Uchi-Kiri" to the "Ageba"—the poem to be sung by the Protagonist in dancing is called "Ageba"—is called "Ha" (the Broken Dance) which is danced in the quick, broken steps, little by little, differing from the gentle steps of the "Jo" (the First Dance); the last dance from the "Ageba" to the Conclusion is called "Kyu" (the Rapid Dance) which is danced much more rapidly than the "Ha" (the Broken Dance), and is the concluding part of the "No" dance. The above three movements of the "Kusé Dance" are used not only in the dance, but also in singing the poems and songs of the "No" dance.



Wrestling of School Boys with a Professional Wrestler

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The Second Year of Reconstruction

THIS is the second year of reconstruction since the disastrous earthquake in 1923. In the meantime, energetic and painstaking efforts have been made for resuscitation by the Government and people, thanks to which 80 per cent. of the quake-stricken districts have been re-constructed.

The second New Year after the catastrophe opened merrily with an atmosphere fit for the occasion, which was created by the pine-trees set up at the entrance of each house and New Year's cards delivered by post-men, two important factors of the New Year's ceremonies, which were refrained from by most people for the New Year of 1924, when they had not yet recovered their spirits after the lamentation of the loss of their families and properties in the earthquake occuring a few months before.

The number of New Year's cards delivered was, however, much under the normal year. The decrease was 40 per cent. in the post-offices under the jurisdiction of the Tokyo Communications Bureau, when the number is compared with 1922 with 52,762,713 cards. This was but a natural consequence of the great disaster white it was a source of congratulation on rapid resuscitation. All the people appeared to be stronger in their determination to go on with their re-construction work.

In the first three days of January, Tokyo witnessed a nearly unequalled enormous turnout of people visiting various busy hunts, of which the Meiji Shrine, a centre of national veneration, had about 300,000 worshippers. The trams carried 1,356,023 men for the first day, 1,327,836 men for the second day and 1,345,890 men for the third day, being greater than the number for the same days of January, 1923, before the earthquake.

The electric light, electric tramway, gas, water and land communication and traffic capacities are now even better than before the earthquake, and especially, the number of automobiles shows a marked increase with 12,000 as against 5,000 before the earthquake, since which time they have been increasing monthly by 300-1,000. The schools number 481 as against 490 before the earthquake. The population stood at 1,917,308 on October 1st, 1924, which shows still a great distance off the pre-quake figure of two millions and a half, but a restoration in this direction is thought to be comparatively easy, as the average births per hour are 7, while the death rate is 5. Shops for articles of daily necessity numbered 38,408 at the end of 1924, a decrease of 21,376 from a time before the earthquake. The list of decreases is headed by confectioners. Toilet goods and clog shops have been re-established dilatorily, being still 2,600 below the pre-quake number. Timber merchants alone increased exceedingly and number at present 2,524, which is double the figure before the catastrophe.

The resuscitation has been apparently unaffected by the tradal dullness. The question is, however, whether it is so in the interior as well. No body can conceive that the Metropolis has been able to make good the damage of 10,000,000,000 yen inflicted on property by the earthquake, in a period of one year and four months. Houses built in the affected

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districts gives a profound impression of how severe the damage was. They consists of 67 per cent. of barracks and 37 per cent. of permanent buildings. Even in the centre of the city, barracks form 90 or 95 per cent. of the houses re-erected after the earthquake. There are still 13,000 families dwelling in hovels built temporarily after the earthquake and 300 families live under canvas.

In every direction in the economic world, a record breaking dullness was experienced in 1924. In that year, the debenture issues amounted to 931,500,000 yen, the amount of capital cut down reached 451,870,000 yen and that of dissolved companies to 988,270,000 yen. The exchange rates went down most severely. Commodity prices soared, menacing greatly the national life. Foreign trade of the year had an unprecedentedly great amount of imports, producing a balance against Japan, which also broke the previous high record.

A greater depression of trade is believed to be in store for 1925, which calls upon the people to be more energetic in their efforts for resuscitation. The Government is carrying out a wholesale re-adjustment of its administrative and economic affairs with careful regard to this state of things, in order to lighten the burdens of the people, while it is making its utmost exertions for the prompt re-construction of the quake-wrecked districts.

The outward appearance of liveliness in resuscitation is impressive of undounted manly spirits and is suggestive of good progress hereafter. The Premier has stated that great determination and energetic exertions are required of us in order to get through the present hard re-adjustment period and to open a new era of national development, while we are not to be left out of the international competition; that we are jointly responsible for making our country more and more shine the world over and to develop more and more, which is our common object, which no one can oppose, although we are not one and the same in standpoint and general views; that we must seriously consider the future of the country and endure the temporary pain and inconvenience in passing through the present condition and lay the foundation of new Japan by stimulating and arousing a sounder and stronger national spirit. He warned the people not to be intoxicated at the advent of the New Year. With the Government having so strong a determination and with the people in high spirits, we can look assuredly to boundless prospects for our country.

We may add with a sense of satisfaction that H. I. M. the Emperor is in much better health at the Imperial Villa at Numadzu. A silver wedding will be celebrated this year by H. I. M. the Emperor and Empress. This makes the second year of resuscitation all the more brilliant in prospect.

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An Economic Policy and Trade and Industry

FOREIGN trade is a result and cause of the international distribution of work. The industry of a country develops with the maintenance of foreign trade as a premise, and where there are products to export they make the basis of the growth of the import trade, interntional trade being nothing else than barter after all. People often forget this fundamental principle in discussing our foreign trade and attribute the cause of an excess of imports over exports to the extent of industrial development or to the nature of import and export goods. They only look on the surface of the foreign trade returns.

Since 1912, the import trade of Japad has aggregated 18,300,000,000 yen. In the same period, the total export trade has reached 17,300,000,000 yen, to which are to the added ships' earnings, emigrants' remittances and the yield of gold in the interior, making up an amount, which writes off the excess of imports. A similar balance was struck in foreign trade for the preceding forty years. Otherise, it would have been impossible to settle the excess of imports and conversion would have been suspended prior to the European War, causing the exchange rates to fall.

During the six years from 1882 to 1887, the currency was the most satisfactorily re-adjusted and contracted in our economic history since the Restoration, and as a natural consequence foreign trade balanced yearly in our favour. Japan's industry was far more undeveloped then than it is to-day and had a very poor list of goods to export. Still exports exceeded imports, as the currency rose so in value as to restrict imports. The adoption of a similar policy would perhaps have done much in preventing the unfavourable balances in foreign trade, which were visible during the subsequent periods.

Specie being the only means of settlement of international accounts, a series of excesses of imports with a poor production of gold, causes an outflow of specie, which contracts the currency and cheapens commodities more than in foreign countries so that exports exceed imports. It makes no differnce how low the country is in civilization and how necessary imported goods are for it. When the balance of imports and exports is considered simply, the condition of industry and civilization of a country may be said to have nothing to do with its foreign trade. When we go to the root of the national life, however, we find an indirect cause of an excess of imports over exports.

Japan is behind Europe and America in civilization, in capital and public and private life, but her people eagerly desire to live up to the standard of Europe and America. One remarkable example is the rivalry in armaments. The Japanese armaments are too big for her national wealth. Still they are considered necessary to set up against these of Europe and America. Her public buildings, educational expenditure and food, clothing and habitations are more than her national wealth allows. This has caused public and private life to depend on loans.

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Individuals cannot live habitually on loans, while then ation and public bodies can be consumers simply by loans. They can keep up payments, if they can raise bonds. In a foreign loan, the proceeds are actually received in goods and not money, for the object of the loan can be attained convertingthe money into goods. It is the same in result when the Government pays the proceeds of a foreign loan for commodities and labour at home. A domestic loan sometimes leads to an excess of imports over exports, too. For subscribers to domestic bonds, national and local bonds are savings, and when they subscribe to them, they are liable to raise their standard of living in the belief that have increased in wealth by the subscription; and they sometimes contract loans on the security of the bonds to pay for commodities. When the demand is met by the issue bank, the currency expands, which leads to an excess of imports over exports. Some French and Italian people no doupt apply the interest on war bonds to their cost of living. What the country already has consumed is regarded by the people as property. This is a reason for a restricted excess of exports over imports of sueh countries, despite the exchange rates being lowered to ⅓ or ¼. If an excessive bond policy should be adopted by the Japanese Government and public bodies, this douple calculation of wealth will lead to a similar result.

The raising of a foreign loan by an industrial company causes an excess of imports over exports, but the payment of the principal and interest gradually out of its profits is a cause for an excess of exports over imports in the long run. In the case of a domestic loan, this payment out of business profits is not the consumption of what is not produced, and any excess issue of debentures not proportionate to a surplus production is naturally checked.

Even to-day, Japan is not so progresswe as European and American countries, with her industry still in a state of infancy. In order to bring it up to the same level as in Europe and America, it is necessary to introduce much foreign capital. But there are no certain prospects for business enterprises set up with foreign capital yielding so much profit as to warrant the payment of the principal and interest of the loan, for we have no further extensive lands and resources to cultivate or exploit. The past big foreign loans are confined to enterprises guaranteed by the Government or to quasi-monopolistic railway and power enterprises. In fact, Government guaranty has been necessary in Japan for floating private foreign loans.

Since the first year of Meiji, the imports aggregated 25,1000,000,000 yen and the exports 23,500,000,000 yen in round figures, with the balance of 1,600,000,000 yen against us. There is in addition the unfavourable balance of foreign trade of Korea and Formosa. Actually, however, imports exceeded exports not more than 1,000,000,000 yen. Roughly the existing foreign indebtedness of Japan is 2,000,000,000 yen at the most,and when we take into account 400,000,000 yen of indemnities received, 400,000,000 yen of loans and capital to Russia, China and South Sea countries, the increase of the specie held by 1,400,000,000 yen over the first year of Meiji and an estimate of the yield of gold in Japan at the amount required dentally and industrially, the actual amount left on our debit side may be only 600,000,000 yen, or 2 per cent. of the total value of the import trade. The excess of imports over exports was so restricted by the in-

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tooduction of foreign capital by the public not having been allowed freely.

The people began to worry over the condition of the foreign trade more than was actually necessay in view of a series of excesses of imports over exports since 1920. In the past five years, the unfavourable balance of foreign trade has been very much over the average amount for the past 57 years. If things ars left as they are, it is apprehended that a debt will be created in a few yeara to an amount more than that for the past 57 years. As an indirect cause we may enumerate our comparatively moderate industrial development and progress of civilzation, and as the direct and principal cause, we must point to the mistaken currency policy and the effect from the earthquake.

The European War so expanded Japan's foreign trade that it showed an unexpectedly great favourable balance, suddenly inflating the specie holdings here and abroad. This naturally expanded the currency. The subsequent reaction of shipping and other trade was to urge a contraction of the currency and an adjustment of accounts. But the Government relieved the jeopardized marine transporters through the semi-cfficial banks, quickening the advent of the postbellum tradal briskness. For the subsequent six years, the Government economic policy has been directed to retarding the natutal contraction of the currency, which has had the result of maintaining the unfavourable balance of foreign trade.

This traditional economic policy has been compelled by the financial condition of the Goverment and the weak foundation of public enterprises, besides statemen's ignorance in adopting that policy. The financial programs in the past six years were always accompanied by large bond issue projects. Additionally, there was a large amount of old bonds maturing yearly. In issuing new bonds and converting the old, it was necessary to be always careful to avoid periods of extreme stringency of the money market. It may be said that the too strong desire to raise the system of public and private life to the same level as in Europe and America has necessitated the adoption of such a policy. Imitation of Europe and America has been rife among the people, but that ought not to have led to an excess of imports over exports, since it is impossible, in principle, to lead every day life on loans for a continued period. But it is possible to an extent that industriarists may raise loan upon loan. Most of our men of enterprise have fallen into a difficult plight, in which they have had to go heavily into debt, as a result of their excessive extension of work on the basis of requirements for their products during the prosperous war and after-war periods. This had the consequence of throwing them into bankruptcy one after another. The Government authorities have therefore been moved directly or indirectly into regulation of the money market without having a chance to contract the currency. Had private enterprises been a little more solidly founded, the Government currency policy would have been a little more inclined towards retrenchment. (The "Diamond")

(To Be Concluded)

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The Convention Between Japan and Russia

JAPAN and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, desiring to promote relations of good neighbourhood and economic cooperation between them, have resolved to conclude a convention embodying basic rules in regulation of such relations and, to that end, have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan:
Kenkichi Yoshizawa, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Republic of China, Jushii, a member of the First Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure;

The Central Executive Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:
Lev Mikhailovitch Karakhan, Ambassador to the Republic of China;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be be in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The High Contracting Parties agree that with the coming into force of the present Convention, diplomatic and consular relations shall be established between them.

ARTICLE II

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees that the Treaty of Portsmouth of September 5th, 1905, shall remain in full force.

It is agreed that the Treaties, Conventions and Agreements, other than the said Treaty of Portsmouth, which were concluded between Japan and Russia prior to November 7, 1917, shall be re-examined at a Conference to be subsequently held between the Governments of the High Contracting Parties and are liable to revision or annulment as altered circumstances may require.

ARTICLE III

The Governments of the High Contracting Parties agree that upon the coming into force of the present Convention, they shall proceed to the revision of the Fishery Convention of 1907, taking into consideration such changes as may have taken place in the general conditions since the conclution of the said Fishery Convention.

Pending the conclusion of a convention so revised, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall maintain the practices established in 1924 relating to the lease of fishery lots to Japanese subjects.

ARTICLE IV

The Governments of the High Contracting Parties agree that upon the coming into force of the present Convention, they shall proceed to the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation in conformity with the principles hereunder mentioned, and that pending the conclusion of such a treaty, the generai intercourse between the two countries shall be regulated by those principles.

(1) The subjects or citizens of each of the High Contracting Parties shall in accordance with the laws of the country: a/have full liberty to enter, travel and reside in the territories of the other, and b/enjoy constant and complete protection for the safety of their lives and property.

(2) Each of the High Contracting Parties shall in accordance with the laws of the country accord in its territories to the subjects or citizens of the other, to the widest possible extent and on condition of reciprocity, the right of private ownership and the

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liberty to engage in commerce, navigation, industries, and other peacefull pursuits.

(3) Without prejudice to the right of each Contracting Party to regulate by its own laws the system of international trade in that country, it is understood that neither Cantracting Party shall apply in discrimination against the other Party any measures of prohibition, restriction or impost which may serve to hamper the growth of the intercourse, economic or otherwise, between the two countries, it being the intention of both Parties to place the commerce, navigation and industry of each country, as far as possible, on the footing of the most favoured nation.

The Governments of the High Contracting Parties further agree that they shall enter into negotiations, from time to time as circumstances may require, for the conclusion of special arrangements relative to commerce and navigation to adjust and to promote economic relations between the two countries.

ARTICLE V

The High Contracting Parties solemnly affirm their desire and intention to live in in peace and amity with each other, scrupulously to respect the undoubted right of a State to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way, to refrain and restrain all persons in any governmental service for them, and all organisations in receipt of any financial assistance from them, from any act overt or covert liable in any way whatever to endanger the order and security in any part of the territories of Japan or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

It is further agreed that neither Contracting Party shall permit the presence in the territories under its jurisdiction—(a) of organisations of groups pretending to be the Government for any part of the territories of the other Party, or (b) of alien subjects or citizens who may be found to be actually carrying on political activities for such organisations or groups.

ARTICLE VI

In the interest of promoting economic relations between the two countries, and taking into consideration the needs of Japan with regard to natural resources, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, is willing to grant to Japanese subjects, companies and associations concessions for the exploitation of minerals, forests and other natural resources in all the territories of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

ARTICLE VII

The present Convention shall be ratified.

Such ratification by each of the High Contracting Parties shall, with as little delay as possible, be communicated, through its diplomatic representative at Peking, to the Government of the other Party, and from the date of the later of such communications this Convention shall come into full force.

The formal exchange of the ratifications shall take place at Peking as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention in duplicate in the English language, and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Peking, this twentieth Day of January, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Five.

K. Yoshizawa (L. S.)

L. Karakhan (L. S.)

Protocol (A)

Japan and the Union of Socialist Republics, in proceeding this day to the

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signature of the Convention embodying Basic Rules of the relations between them, have deemed it advisable to regulate certain questions in relation to the said Convention, and have, through their respective Plenipotentiaries, agreed upon the following stipulations:

ARTICLE I

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes to place in the possession of the other Party the movable and immovable property belonging to the Embassy and Consulates of such other Party and actually existing within its own territories.

In case it is found that the land occupied by the former Russian Government at Tokyo is so situated as to cause difficulties to the town planning of Tokyo or to the service of the public purposes, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be willing to consider the proposals which may be made by the Japanese Government looking to the removal of such difficulties.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall accord to the Government of Japan all reasonable facilities in the selection of suitable sites and buildings for the Japanese Embassy and Consulates to be established in the territories of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

ARTICLE II

It is agreed that all questions of the debts due to the Government or subjects of Japan on account of public loans and treasury bills issued by the former Russian Governments, to wit by the Imperial Government of Russia and the Provisional Government which succeded it, are reserved for adjustment at subsequent negotiations between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Socialist Republics.

Provided that in the adjustment of such questions, the Government or subjects of Japan shall not, all other conditions being equal, be placed in any position less favourable than that which the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics may accord to the Government or nationals of any other country on similar questions.

It is also agreed that all questions relating to claims of the Government of either Party to the Government of the other, or of the nationals of either Party to the Government of other, are reserved for adjustment at subsequent negotiations between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

ARTICLE III

In view of climatic conditions in Northern Saghalien preventing the immediate homeward transportation of Japanese troops now stationed there, these troops shall be completely withdrawn from the said region by May 15, 1925.

Such withdrawal shall be commenced as soon as climatic conditions will permit it and any and all districts in Northern Saghalien so evacuated by Japanese troops shall immediately thereupon be restored in full sovereignty to the proper authorities of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The details pertaining to the transfer of administration and to the termination of the occupation shall be arranged at Alexandrovsk between the Commander of the Japanese Occupation Army and the Re-

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presentatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

ARTICLE IV

The High Contracting Parties mutually declare that there actually exists no treaty or agreement of military alliance nor any other secret agreement which either of them has entered into with any third Party and which constituties an infringement upon, or a menace to, the sovereignty, territorial rights or national safety of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE V

The present Protocol is to be considered as ratified with the ratification of the Convention embodying Basic Rules of the Relations between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed under the same date.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol in duplicate in the English language, and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Peking, this Twentieth Day of January, One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Five.

K. Yoshizawa (L. S.)

L. Karakhan (L. S.)

Protocol (B)

The High Contracting Parties have agreed upon the following as the basis for the Concession Contracts to be concluded within five months from the date of the complete evacuation of Northern Saghalien by Japan troops, as provided for in Article 3 of Protocol (A) signed this day between the Plenipotentiaries of Japan and of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

1. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to grant to Japanese concerns recommended by the Government of Japan the concession for the exploitation of 50%, in area, of each of the oil fields in Northern Saghalien which are mentioned in the Memorandum submitted to the Representative of the Union by the Japanese Representative on August 29th, 1924. For the purpose of determing the area to be leased to the Japanese concerns for such exploitation, each of the said oil fields shall be divided into checkerboard squares of from fifteen to forty dessiatines each, and a number of these squares representing 50% of the whole area shall be allotted to the Japanese, it being understood that the squares to be so leased to the Japanese are, as a rule, to be non-contiguous to one another, but shall include all the wells now being drilled or worked by the Japanese. With regard to the remaining unleased lots of the oil fields mentioned in the said Memorandum, it is agreed that should the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics decide to offer such lots, wholly or in part, for foreign concession, Japanese concerns shall be afforded equal opportunity in the matter of such concession.

2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics also agrees to authorize Japanese concerns recommended by the Government of Japan to prospect oil fields, for a period of from five to ten years, on the Eastern coast of Northern Saghalien over an area of one thousand square versts to be selected within one year after the conclusion of the Concession Contracts, and in case oil fields shall have been established in consequence of such prospecting by the Japanese, the Concession for the exploitation of 50%, in area, of the oil fields so established shall be granted to the Japanese.

3. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to grant to Japanese concerns recommended by the Government of Japan the concession for the exploitation of coal fields on the Western coast of Northern Saghalien over a specific area which shall be determined in the Concessisn Contracts. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics further agrees to grant to such Japanese concerns the concession regarding coal fields in the Doue district over a specific area to be determined in the Concession Contracts. With regard to the coal fields outside the specific area mentioned in the preceding two paragraphs, it is also agreed that should the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics decide to offer them for foreign concession, Japanese cencerns shall be afforded equal opportunity in the matter of such concession.

4. The period of the concessions for the exploitation of oil and coal fields stipulated in the preceding paragraphs shall be from forty to fifty years.

5. As royalty for the said concessions, the Japanese concessionnaires shall make over annually to the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in case of coal fields, from 5 to 8 precent of their gross output, and, in case of oil fields, from 5 to 15 precent of their gross output: provided that in the case of a gusher, the royalty may be raised up to 45 percent of its gross output.

The percentage of output thus to be made over as royalty shall be definitively fixed in the Concession Contracts and it may be graduated according to the scale of annual output in a manner to be defined in such Contracts.

6. The aaid Japanese concerns shall be permitted to fell trees needed for purpose of the enterprises and to set up various undertakings with a view to facilitating communica-

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tion and transportation of materials and products. Details connected therewith shall be arranged in the Concession Contracts.

7. In consideration of the royalty abovementioned and taking also into account the disadvantages under which the enterprises are to be placed by reason of the geographical position and other general conditions of the districts affected it is agreed that the importation and exportation of any articles, materials or products needed for or obtained from such enterprises shall be permitted free of duty, and that the enterprises shall not be subjected to any such taxation or restriction as may in fact render their remunerative working impossible.

8. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall accord all reasonable protection and facilities to the said enterprises.

9. Details connected with the foregoing Articles shall be arranged in the Concession Contracts.

The present Protocol is to be considered as ratified with the ratification of the Convention embodying Basic Rules of the Relations between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed under the same date.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiories have signed the present Protocol in duplicate in the English Language, and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Peking, this Twentieth Day of January, One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Five.

K. Yoshizawa (L. S.)

L. Karakhan (L. S.)

Declaration

In proceeding this day to the signature of the Convention embodying the Basic Rules of the Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, the undersigned Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has the honour to declare that the recognition by his Government of the validity of the Treaty of Portsmouth of September 5, 1905, does not in any way signify that the Government of the Union shares with the former Tsarist Government the political responsibility for the conclusion of the said Treaty.

L. Karakhan (.L. S.)

Peking, January 20, 1925

Peking, January 20th, 1925.

Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour on behalf my Government to declare that the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees that the work which is now being carried on by the Japanese in Northern Saghalien both in the oil and the coal fields, as stated in the Memorandum handed to the Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the Japanese Plenipotentiary on August 29th, 1924, be continued until the conclusion of the Concession Contracts to be effected within five months from the date of the complete evacuation of Northern Saghalien by the Japanese troops, provided the following conditions be abided by the Japanese:

1) The work must be continued in strict accordance with the data of the said Memorandum of August 29th, 1924, as regards the area, the number of workers and experts employed, the machinery and other conditions provided in the Memorandum.

2) The produce such as oil and coal cannot be exported or sold and may only be applied to the use of the staff and equipment connected with the said work.

3) The permission granted by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the continuation of the work shall in no way affect the stipulations of the future concession contract.

4) The question of operation of the Japanese wireless stations in Northern Saghalien is reserved for future arrangement, and will be adjusted in a manner consistent with the existing laws of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics prohibiting private and foreign establishment of the wireless stations.

I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you, Monsieur le Ministre, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) L. Karakhan

His Excellency
Mr. Kenkichi Yoshizawa,
Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary
of Japan.

Peking, January 20th, 2925.

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the following Note from Your Excellency, under this date:

"Monsieur le Ministre,

I have the honour on behalf of my Government to declare that the Govern-

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ment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees that the work which is now being carried on by the Japanese in Northern Saghalien both in the oil and the coal fields, as stated in the Memorandum handed to the Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by the Japanese Plenipotentiary on August 29th, 1924, be continued until the conclusion of the Concession Contracts to be effected within five months from the date of the complete evacuation of Northern Saghalien by the Japanese troops, provided the following conditions be abide by the Japanese:

His Excellency
Mr. Lev Mikhailovitch Karakhan,
Ambassador of the Union of
Soviet Socialist Republics.

---

1. The work must be continued in strict accordance with the data of the said Memorandum of August 29th, 1924, as regards the area, the number of workers and experts employed, the machinery and other conditions provided in the Memorandum.

2. The produce such as oil and coal cannot be exported or sold and may only be applied to the use of the staff and equipment connected with the said work.

3. The permission granted by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the continuation of the work shall in no way affect the stipulations of the future Concession Contract.

4. The question of operation of the Japanese wireless stations in Northern Saghalien is reserved for future arrangement, and will be adjusted in manner consistent with the existing laws of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics prohibiting private and foreign establishment of wireless stations."

On behalf of my Government, I have the honour to state that the Japanese Imperial Government agrees entirely with the said Note.

I avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) K. Yoshizawa

Annexed Note

In proceeding this day of the signature of the Convention embodying Basic Rules of the Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan, the undersigned Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics has the honour to tender hereby to the Government of Japan an expression of sincere regrets for the Nikolaievsk incident of 1920.

L. Karakhan
(L. S.)

Peking, January 20th, 1925.

Protocol of Signature

Kenkichi Yoshizawa, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China, and Lev Mikhailovitch Karakhan, Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to China, authorized under their respective full powers found in due and good form, met this day at Peking, and closely examined the following documents:

1. A Convention embodying Basic Rules of the relations between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
2. Two Protocols.
3. One Declaration.
4. One set of Notes.
5. One annexed Note.

Having agreed upon every term and stipulation contained therein, the Plenipotentiaries have officially signed and sealed the respective documents.

The Two Plenipotentiaries further agreed that there should be apposed to the present Protocol the Memorandum, handed by the Japanese Plenipotentiary to the Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on August 29th, 1924, and embodying a statement on the conditions of oil and coal fields worked by the Japanese in Northern Saghalien.

In faith whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries of the Two High Contracting Parties have signed the present Protocol in duplicate, in the English language, and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done at Peking this Twentieth Day of January One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-Five.

K. Yoshizawa (L. S.) L. Karakhan (L. S.)

Memorandum submitted to the Representative of the Union by the Japanese Representative on August 29th, 1924.

Oil Exploration Operations

I. The exploration operations are being conducted by the Hokushinkai & Co. on behalf of the Government.

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II Operations	Locations	areas		Test boring Oil	No oil
Oha.....	Two and half miles west of Urkt Bay, in the valley of the River Oha	2500	across	4	7
Ehabi.....	One mile went of Ehabi Bay	1600	„	None	3
Pilutun	Six miies south-west of Kyakr Bay, along the River Pilutun	1200	„	None	3
Nutovo	Five miles west from the mouth of the River Nutovo.	2500	„	1	2
Chaivo	Three miles west of Chaivo Bay along the Boatasin River	1200	„	1	1
Nuivo.....	Seven miles west of Nuivo Bay, in the valley of Nogric River (a branch of the Tuimi River).....	1600	„	1	1
Vuigrektui ..	Three miles south of the mouth of the River Tuimi along the valley of that River	800	„	None	2
Katangli.....	On the shore of Lake Katangli north of Nabilisky Bay.	1600	„	1	4

III. Experts employed: 20
Workers: 400 (in summer time)

IV. Machinery

Hydraulic Rotary system 3 } for deep boring
Standard cable system 5 }

Diamond Boring system 2 } for shallow boring
Spring Boring system (worked by man power) 10 }

V. Outfit.

A) For communication:—Telephone lines connecting the several operations, wireless stations at Oha and Chaivo.

B) For transportation:—One small steamer and several motor boats which are used in summer time for connecting the several operations, besides a dozen lighters and junks.

C) Establishment:

	Oha	Ehabi	Pilutun	Nutovo	Chaivo	Nuivo	Vuigre-ktui	Kata-ngli
House for personnel and workers	30	1	2	7	8	6	1	15
Boring rigs...	11	3	3	3	1	2	2	5
Boiler houses	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Oil reservoir (earthen) ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fuel oil tank (steel) ...	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

VI. Light railway: none.

A trolley line extending for two and half miles between Urkt Bay and works at Oha, and another trolley line extending for about three miles between Katangli and Nabil.

VII. Exportation of oil: none.

Colliery Works

I. Exploiters.

Doue Mine:—The Mitsubishi & Co. is working it on behalf of the occupation army.

Rogatui Mine:—Is worked by the Staheef & Co. and Mitsubishi as a joint enterprise.

II. Location of the mines.

Doue Mine: about six miles south of the harbour of Alexandrovsk, in the valley of Postvaya close to the sea. There are two level pits now in operation, but no shaft. The output for 1923 was about 50,000 tons.

Rogutui Mine:—About ten miles south of Alexandrovsk harbour toward the sea. Two pits now in operation. No shaft. The output for 1923 about 30,000 tons.

III. The number of experts and workers.

	experts	workers
Doue Mine:	five	about 200
Rogatui Mine:	three	about 150

(the numbers are those in summer time.)

IV. Machinery.

At Doue mine small locomotives are used for the purpose transportation of coal.

In Rogatui mine no machinery is used, both digging and transportations being carried on by man power and on horse back.

V. Establishments.

No special establishments for colliery purpose except a little more than a mile of trolley line leading from the Doue Mine to the sea shore, and another trolley line, less than a quarter mile, at Rogatui.

VI. Exportation.

The output of the Doue mine is consumed by the occupation army and the people residing within the occupation area, no part of it being taken out of the island.

About 30,000 tons of the output of the Rogatui mine is said to have been exported in 1923 by Mitsubishi & Staheeff.

(Signed) K. Yoshizawa.

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Around the Hibachi

The Breast of the Image

IN ancient times, a young rich man, Sensuke Tamazawa by name, resided in Kumonohara in the Province of Tango. He was an ex-samurai and came from Takata in the Provinces of Echigo, with his family, in the Enpo era (1673-1680). Being rich and having no fixed calling, he amused himself with *go*, chess, *koto* and *samisen* playing, but finally tired of them. Then, he ran after women. But he could not find his ideal.

Muzo Takamachi, a needle-doctor or acupuncturist at Arima Hot Springs in the Province of Settsu, always came about the neighborhood of this place attending patients. He took over and brought up poor boys and girls, and when they came of age, they were put to service as *yuna* at the Arima Hot Springs, to wait on the hot springs visitors, and daimyo and other nobles. From this he derived his main income.

The rich young man heard of this man and wished to see him and ask for an introduction to a women of matchless beauty. He visited the hot springs without loss of time and saw the needle-doctor at his house. He applied for such a woman without regard to expense.

The request was readily accepted by the host, who asked him to come again after five days, when he would take him to a secret place, not far away from the house, where his girls were, as it was prohibited by law to keep women for service or sale.

On the day appointed, the doctor was visited by Tamazasa, who was taken to the village of Santa about six miles off, in a palanquin. At the entrance to the village, they left the palanquins and walked to its other end, where there were two pine trees standing by the road side. They entered a building through a big gate. It seemed to be a large unoccupied Buddhist temple, and there were large rooms, the priests' quarters, the reception-hall and others. But it was desolate. They came to the place where the Buddhist sanctum had perhaps been. The roof was broken, and the Buddhist image, about 16 feet in height, could not be kept in its right place, and rested under the eaves.

Tamazawa wondered at the doctor's behaviour and apprehended some intimidation from him. Apparently without any malice, the doctor approached the Buddhist image and stood on its lap. He took hold of the left breast and raised it gently. There opened a large aperture under some contrivance or other. The doctor smiled and led Tamazasa into it. The two proceeded along a passage. When they had gone about 20 metres, they found a big gate standing before them.

This gate, unlike the temple-gate met at first, was as splendid as the Kinkakuji in Kyoto, built by the Ashikaga Shogun Yoshimitsu, or a part of the buildings of the Fushimi-Momoyama Castle, erected by Toyotomi Hideyoshi with the eaves and ridge exquisitely carved and set with gold, silver and jewels.

The doctor entered and announced a visitor. Six or Seven handsome boys 14 or 15 years old came out. They were in

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ancient dress with light blue *shitatare* and wore *eboshi*. They told him that their master had been waiting for his visit, and they led the two into a presence chamber, in which a man of about 50 years old, apparently the master, sat on a chair, set with mother-of-pearl. He was similarly dressed to the boys. Tamazawa was struck with the dignity of the master with his perfect composure, and trembled. The master looked somewhat uneasy at seeing the stranger.

The doctor, with an innocent look, saluted the master, to whom he introduced Tamazasa, saying that he was an ex-samurai. He told the master that he had come to introduce Tamazasa to him and that he was taking his leave on urgent business. He asked the master to treat the guest politely and amuse him with all the girls attending him. So saying, the doctor disappeared. Tamazasa was filled with wonder and apprehension, but had no courage to inquire the reason of the doctor so hastily taking leave.

The master politely led Tamazasa into an inner pavilion. He made Tamazasa sit on a rosewood chair, covered with brocade, in the centre, he himself being seated on a sandalwood chair. Soon, about twenty beautiful women 18 to 35 years old, entered and placed before the guest delicacies and liquor. They then began dancing. Tamazasa had a trained eye for feminine beauty. He thought all before him to be finer than any he had ever seen. His heart became light and merry at this thought, and he took cup after cup.

The most beautiful of the women was Hanakawa. Although she had rather passed her first freshness yet she had a good voice and deportment. She won the heart of Tamazasa, who gazed on her more than the rest; and she also looked at him significantly.

Tamazasa was delighted more and more and was draining a big cup of sake when Hanakawa came near him and sang a love song as she glanced sidewise at him with ardor.

In the meantime, the master had been summoned by his lord on urgent business, and went out with a train of attendants.

Tamazasa was left in the hall with the beauties. They dallied till late into the night. Finally Tamazasa was led to his chamber. There he found Hanakawa awaiting him. Their soft whisperings knew no end.

"What led you to this house?" inquired the girl. "I am from Takashima, Omi Province, and am a daughter of Kaizu-no-Hosome, favourite mistress of General Sakanouye-no-Toshihito. He heard a poor noble's complaint in the palace of Kyoto that he could not eat to his heart's content even yam gruel. He sympathized with him and took him to Takashima, his fief. The noble stayed a long time there. Meanwhile, his daughter, my mother, was loved by the lord and gave birth to me. I was brought up in Kyoto. When I was 7 years old I was enchanted and brought to this house by my master, a magician: and have passed many years of pain and hardship here. When I think over my misfortune and the probable extinction of my family and relatives, I become sad. You had better leaves this house soon: otherwise, you will be a captive of the magician forever as all other persons here are."

She wept as she told this story. Tamazasa was struck dumb with astonishment.

Then he said, "It is one thousand years ago that General Sakanouye was at Takashima, and it is now the 3rd year of Genroku (1690). The poor noble's complaint is mentioned in the old *Uji-Shui* and is too well known. What can I do to escape from this misfortune!"

"You do not trust my words, as you believe in the reality of this temple," said Hanakawa, "If you are not firm you are sure to sorry for it some day. To find your way out of this dilemma you must do just as I tell you."

So saying, Hanakawa wrapped a piece of white silk round the head of Tamazasa and taught him the way to save himself

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saying that when the master came back, he should recite the names of Amaterasu-Omikami and other deities, at which the master would be sure to writhe in agony.

As Hanakawa looked serious, Tamazasa began to put trust in her words, and awaited the return of the master.

At daybreak, the master came back. He entered the chamber of Tamazasa, when he recited the deities' names loudly and intently. At this, the master was taken aback and cried in bewildement, "Pardon me, sir! Alas! This misfortune has befallen me, as the secret has been divulged to a human being by the skeleton of Hanazawa against my order, I can no longer conjure, as the deities' names recited break the spell of my magic. I can no longer live here."

He repeatedly begged pardon, as he went round the room in confusion; and at last ran away.

Hanakawa told Tamazasa further that the master was a devil with such strong magic power that when once a Buddhist priest attempted to arrest him by chanting the spell of Acara, he seized the priest and threw him from Settsu Province to Hizen Province. She also said it was by fate that she met Tamazasa, and she apparently felt relieved at the flight of the devil.

Tamazasa remained in the place with Hanakawa and the other pretty women, and he dreamed away his days merrily like butterflies playing in a garden of eternal spring. After years of pleasure, he awoke from his dream according to the proverb which says that upon the full tide of pleasure steals sadness, for one day he thought of his family and property left in in Kumono-hara, Tango Province, after living together with Hanakawa for about two years. For a time, he suppressed his desire to visit them, but he could not hold out any longer. He told Hanakawa. She gazed at him and said nothing.

Another day Tamazasa let slip words about his homesickness. Hearing this, Hanakawa said, "Now it is time to confus that I am of another world, and have been temporarily in this world with the special permission of Buddha. To-day is just the day, upon which my leave expires. It is time to part from you, although I cannot tear myself away. Go back to the terrestrial world, my dear! We have been long devoted to each other, and when you think of me hold mass for my soul from time to time, in memory of past happy days."

She spoke through her tears. Then, she cut the wall in the easterly direction, with a knife, and signed to him to go out through the opening. Partly regretting to part from her and partly in expectation of the happiness of being again in the human world, he came out. He felt as if he was taking the same way as that by which he had first been led into the paradise, through the deft in the breast of the Buddhist image; so he believed the place was the old temple at the end of Santa Village, Settsu Province.

When he came out and looked round, he found himself under the verandah of the famous Komagata Temple on the Sumida River, Asakusa, Yedo. For a while, he stood aghast. He was penniless, and started as a begger for his native place. On the way he pondered over his wonderful and miraculous experience and recollected the charming beauty of Hanakawa and her deep affection. He was determined to erect to her a tomb and to visit it daily.

After a considerable number of days on the journey, he reached his native place, Kumo-no-hara, over a distance of over 700 miles. There he found to his astonishment every thing had quite a changed aspect from what it had been previously, for he did not believe that a long time had elapsed since he left it to visit the abode of beauty. Filled with wonder, he entered his house and was met at the porch by the same but now decrepit employees, some of whom had died during his absence. He was more stricken with wonder. When he found that he had been absent for twenty years, a period than had seemed to him to be about two years. When he came back the 3rd year of Genroku had become the 6th year of Hoyei.

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A Meeting of the Arrangement Committee of a Grand Meeting of International Social Works

AT a general meeting of the Red Cross League held in Paris, this spring it was proposed and decided to hold a grand meeting concerning international social work. The time of the meeting has been settled recently to be the summer of 1925 and the place to be Paris. Japan has been asked to join the meeting, and it has been decided to accept the invitation with the cooperation of the Japan Red Cross Society and the Central Social Work Association. On Dec 11th, the arrangement committee met at the Chuo-tei, Marunouchi, Tokyo, when Baron S. Hirayama, the President of the Japan Red Cross Society, made a congratulatory address to the following effect:—

A general meeting of the Red Cross League held in Paris this spring approved a proposal of its Secretariat to call a grand meeting respecting social work, and at the same time, the hope was manifested that the countries joining in the meeting should do all the work concerning it through their Red Cross Societies. According to this decision, the Secretariat of the above league drew up a plan for holding the proposed meeting in Paris next summer and applied to the Japan Red Cross Society to use its good offices in forming an arrangement committee in Japan.

Not a few international meetings have hitherto been held regarding special social work. But I understand that the proposed meeting is the first for the purpose of exchanging knowledge in all lines of social work, of discussing present day problems and of giving the chance of bringing those interested in such works into touch.

The necessity of social work has increased steadily with the progress of the times, and organization and system have grown so complicated that it is now an object of scientific study and investigation. This study, coupled with the energetic efforts of these interested, has stimulated progress and development. On the other hand, management has improved, necessarily, to meet requirements properly. We believe it quite timely that such a meeting has been proposed.

Moreover, the Japan Red Cross Society recently amended its statutes in compliance with the purposes of the Peace Treaty and the provisions of the Red Cross League, by which it defined its object to be engaged in peaceful work. It thus made itself a body for social work.

Considering this, we believe it our duty to accept the foregoing invitation of the league, and having consulted with the Central Social Work Association, we requested you to join the Arrangement Committee and to be present at this meeting. We feel happy and grateful that you have favoured us with your presence in such large numbers.

I look forward with confidence that this

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meeting will contribute much towards the success of the proposed grand meeting of international social work, the improvement and progress of which will promote the peace and happiness of humanity. I also rejoice in the expectation of the meeting creating an opportunity for international co-operative efforts in social work, which is growing in activity.

After this speech, Mr. S. Kubota was selected Chairman, and the Chairman. Standing Commitee and Manager of the Committee were chosen. Then, the meeting considered and favorably decided the question of attandance at the proposed meeting, the questions to be presented to it and some otner important matters, after which the meeting was closed.

Those present at the above meeting were as follow:

District.	Name.	
Tokyo	Mr. K. Ikeda,	Director of the Social Bureau of the Home Dept. and Managing Director of the Keifuku-kai and the Dojun-kai
,,	Mr. R. Ishii,	Principal of the Takinogawa-gakuin
,,	Mrs. H. Inouye,	Professor of the Japan Women's University and Chief Manager of the Ofu-kai
,,	Mr. T. Hara,	Head of the Tokyo Discharged Prisoners' Protecting Society
,,	Prince Nijo,	President of the Saisei-kai and Member of the House of Peers
,,	Mr. T. Tomeoka,	Principal of the Family School
,,	Mr. T. Iriye,	Chief of the Insurance Section of the Railway Dept.
,,	Mr. M. Otani,	Secretary of the Imperial Household Dept.
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New Year's Meeting of the Ladies' Volunteer Nurse Society and Baron S. Hirayama, President of Japan Red Cross Society, Addressing.

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Commecial Intelligence

Suspension of the Import Duty on Rice.—It has been announced officially that the import duty on rice will be suspended until Augugt 31st, 1925 under Art. 2 of the Rice Law, in order to stimulate the importation of foreign rice for meeting the prospective shortage of this year's domestic rice supply.

Consumption of Rice.—It is reported by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce that during 1924, the consumption of rice in Japan amounted to 65,809,000 *koku*. of which Japanese rice was 56,647,000 *koku* (86 per cent.), Korean rice 4,577,000 *koku* (8 per cent.), Formosan rice 1,724,000 *koku* (3 per cent), and foreign rice 2,861,000 *koku* (5 per cent.). The annual consumption in the past ten years was as follows:—

(In Thousands of *Koku*)

Year	Amount
1915 . . .	58,922
1916 . . .	58,226
1917 . . .	61,218
1918 . . .	62.720
1919 . . .	62,082
1920 . . .	62,316
1221 . . .	65,028
1922 . . .	62,856
1923 . . .	66,723
1924 . . .	65,809

The average for the five years 1915-1919 was 60,638,000 *koku* and that for the five years 1920-1924 64,546,000 *koku*.

A Proposed Oil Syndicate.—The production of crude oil in Japan had windled away and stood at 1,809,000 *koku* in 1923 as against 2,670,000 *koku* in 1916, while the importation of oil in the year reached 2,608,000 *koku*, including 257,000 of volatile oil, 630,000 of lighting oil, 174,000 of lubricating oil and 87,000 of crude oil. Such large importation of foreign oil was rendered necessary by a marked increase in the demand by ships and for military purposes. The organization of a big selling company of imported oil is projected with official backing in order to facilitate the handing of foreign oil, getting the approval of the foreign oil companies trading in Japan. It is considered, however, to be doubtful to get the foreign approval. If so, it will prove a bar to the prompt realization of the above scheme.

The Amalgamation of the N.Y.K. and the T.K.K. Again on the Tapis.—The question of amalgamation between the N.Y.K. and the T.K.K. has again come to the fore, and this time its realization is thought to be certain. Viscount Shibusawa is much interested in the question. and the authorities concerned seem to be in favour of it, too.

The First Diesel Engine Boat in Japan.— The *Asuka-Maru*, the first diesel engine in Japan(7,488 tons), built in England to the order N.Y.K., entered Kobe from Liverpool on January 29th. Her sister ship, the *Atago-Maru*, will soon be built. If the results age, the N.Y.K. will gradually adopt oil burners for all its steamers.

Superior Steamers to be Built by the N.Y.K:—It is understood that the

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N.Y.K. is thinking of the construction of two steamers of 10,000 tons to run its European line, in addition to eight steamers of the same tonnage on it, as means to improve the service and to meet the rivalry of the foreign liners.

Raw Cotton to be Purchased This Season.—The question is very important how much raw cotton will be purchased by Japanese spinners this season, and a reliable estimate in this connection may be given as follows:—

Raw Cotton	Purchased	Imported or in Course of Importation	To Be Purchased
	Bls.	Bls.	Bls.
American Cotton	160,000	450,000	250,000
Indian Cotton	1,000,000	300,000	600,000
Egyptian Cotton	15,000 or 16,000	10,000	4,000 or 5,000
Chinese Cotton	120,000 or 130.000	100,000	30,000

The total of the above figures represents the value of 731,500,000 yen, according to the current prices.

The Actual Yield of Rice in 1924.—It is reported by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce that in 1924, the yield of rice in Japan amounted to 57,171,410 *koku*, an increase of 1,727, 321 *koku*, or 3,1 per cent. over 1923. The following give the yields for the past six years:—

Year	Yield *koku*	Year	Yield *koku*
1919	60,818,688	1922	60,693,850
1920	63,208,542	1923	55,443,675
1921	55,180,539	1924	57,171,410

A Speech by teh Governor of the Bank of Japan.—At the New Year's banquet held at the Tokyo Clearing House on January 30th, Mr. Ichiki, the Governor of the Bank of Japan, spoke substantilly as follows:—

The Japanese economic world is returuing now to the normal state from the abnormal condition brought about by the earthquake, and its true re-building depends upon the efforts of the people to be made hereafter, and also the emerging of foreign trade from the existing adverse tendency. The Japanese must be greatly determined to save consumption and readjust enterprises, while production should be increased and efficiency enhanced, for recovering from the loss of wealth by the catastrophe on the one hand and developing foreign trade on the other; otherwise, any artificial means could not be fruitful. To consider the prospects of the financial world, it will go no improving steadily, as it is now returning to the normal state, the Government finances are being retrenched and private enterprises are being re-adjusted. Foreign trade for this year will probably show no such balance against us. In consideration of these facts, money will perhaps become easier. The people must not relax even when they are father free from anxiety acout the future prospects of the financial world, for its complete re-building can not be hoped for soen and the people must endure for a long time with an untiring spirit and thrift.

Specie Held.—It is officially announced that on January 31st, the sphcie held amounted to 1,489,000,000 yen, of which 411,000,000 yen belonged to the Government and 1,078,000,000 yen to the Bank of Japan. The amount held abroad was 314.000,000 yen and that held in Japan 1,175,000,000 yen.

Tariff Revision.—It is thought to be impossible to present a bill for a general revision of the import tariff by the Government in the present session of the Diet, as investigations by the Import Tariff Revision Preparatory Commission are taking a larger amount of time and trouble than was first expected.

Articles on the Luxury List.—With regard to the articles to be struck off the list of luxuries, the draft was made by the Department of Finance, and has been under consultation with the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The articles to be struck off will be

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vegetable volatile oil, musk, artificial musk, nard, cloves, agalwood, sandalwood, Borneo camphor, blumea, vanillin, coumarine, heliotropin and similar aromatic articles not otherwise provided for, and artificial perfumeries.

Internationalization of Shares.—One noteworthy tendency in the money market is an increasing foreign interest taken in Japanese shares. It is a well known fact that 110,000 shares of the Daido Electric Power Co. have been recently sold to an American syndicate through the Tobo Electric Power Co. The Tokyo Electric Light Co. is negotiating for the sale of its shares on the English market.

Foreign Trade in January.—The foreign trade of Japan for January amounted to 147,050,000 yen for exports and 226,013,000 yen for imports, showing the balance of 78,963,000 yen against us. As compared with the same month, 1924, the exports gained 36,453,000 and the imports 15,046,000 yen.

International Accounts.—The balance of international accounts other than foreign trade has hitherto not been made public by the Government on the ground that they cannot be stated quite exactly. In the meantime, there has been an earnest desire to have the accounts publicly reported, and the Department of Finances has at last decided do so. The accunts for 1923 will therefore be published at first, and they were roughly about 350,000,000 yen of payments and about 450,000,000 yen of receipts, the balance of which leaves something like 100,000,000 yen on Japan's credit side.

A General Meeting of the Industrial Bank of Japan.—At a recent general meeting of shareholders of the Industrial Bank of Japan, Mr. Ono, the President, spoke substantially as follows:—

During the term under review, economics were in a re-adjustment period and were inactive. The capital involved in the companies dissolved and cutting down capital amounted to 778,000,000 yen and that of the newly established and extended companies to 846,000,000 yen, the latter of which had a comparatively samll number of such basic businesses as electric and traffic. We cannot, therefore, expect any prompt recovery of industry to the normal state. Money was given a considerably beneficial effect by the growth of foreign trade, the putting out of the relief funds, the introduction of foreign capital, the adjustment of old loans by debenture issues, the repayment of the French bonds and the carrying out of the Government non-loan policy. This enlivened greatly the securities market. Still interest on loans and discount rates was strong due to the bank's continued precautions exercised over loans.

Messrs. Takata& Co. in Financial Difficulties.—Messrs. Takata & Co., one of the biggest importers of machinery in Japan, has fallen into financial difficulties with liablities of 46,800,000 yen as against the assets of 32,400,000 yen. The firm lost heavily on account of the earthquake and the exchange fall. Arrangements are being made with the bankers. The Yeiraku Bank, in which the firm hcs a controlling interest, has suspended payment as a result of the above event, which is feared to have a bad effect on the credit of Japanese traders in foreign countries.

General Meeting of the Bank of Japan.—The 85th general meeting of the Bank of Japan was held on the 21st inst., when a 12 per cent. dividend was declared. For the term, the bank's profits together with the balance of profits brought over from the preceding term totalled 8,955,000 yen, of which 2,500,000 yen was carried to the reserve funds, 10,000 yen to the sinking fund, 300,000 yen to the rewards and social expenses of the officials and 2,250,000 yen to a dividend (6 per cent. ordinary and 6 per cent. special), the balance of 3,895,000 yen being carried forward to next term.

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From the Japanese Press

A Better Understanding between Japan and America.—One party of inspection after another is visiting Japan from America. This is very good, observe the *Chugai Shogyo*, which wishes as frequent visits of such parties as possible, inspecting the true state of affairs in every part of this country, which is heartily welcomed by the Japanese as mutually beneficial to the two countries from economic and diplomatic points of views. We wish closer economic and dipiomatic relations between the two countries than at present, for which an exchange of visits between the peoples has an important significance.

No true rapproachement of one country with another can be hoped for unless the two truly understand each other; and without a true rapproachement, true economic and other relations would be simply a figure of speech. We must strive to make ourselves absolutely friendly in our diplomatic relations by a mutual and thorough understanding, which can be attained most effectually by an exchange of visits by parties of inspection.

One regrettable thing is that the past results of such visits have not been quite without leading to misunderstanding between the two countries on account of biassed views taken and superficial observation made by the visitors. This is a point, which the *Chugai Shogyo* wishes to be taken into careful consideration by the visitors. If its observation is not mistaken, it seems to the paper that not a few American people considerably misunderstand Japan and the Japanese people as is proved by facts, one of the most unmistakable evidences of it being the operation of the Japanese exclusion act. This misunderstanding must be removed by all means, for even a slight misunderstanding is liable to lead to grave consequenees. The paper, whose true motive for hoping for an exchange of frequent visits between the two peoples lies in a desire to remove this misunderstanding, wishes the American parties visiting this country to look rightly into both sides and to understand and judge correctly, without straining the truths observed by them.

A Memorial for Improving National Education.—The Seiyu Party has decided to place before the Diet a proposal to reform the national educational system, with the support of other pro-Government parties. The parties ought to have taken more appropriate and effective means for the object than the above, with their overwhelming majority in the house, the *Chugai Shogyo* argues in an editorial of February 23rd, and if they are earnest and sincere in their advocacy of reforms in the national education, they are asked by the paper to do their utmost to carry it out without being satisfied simply with the presentation of the resolution.

There can be no more urgent need than to reform the national educational system, which has fallen into formalism and, it seems as if it has lost sight of what is most important, spiritual education. If spiritual education has not been actually neglected by the educational authorities, the matter must be laid at the door of the educators themselves. If so, it is necessary to improve the normal school system and to produce better teachers than at present, before the national educational system is reformed. How much considera-

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tion has been taken by the educational authorities of the question of improving the normal school system? The present uniformity principle of education is thought by the paper to be the clearest evidence of how formal the existing national educational system is. The above resolution rightly wishes at first the abolition of the uniformity system. While the general educational policy must be thorough and consistent, it is necessary to educate the people differently according to practical life and surroundings, which differ in towns and countries. This must be the true significance of the national education. What is vitally important in educating the people is considered by the paper to be to cultivate a progressive national idea as to our Imperial house and national constitution, which must be the only object of spiritual education. For this, international knowledge and historical education are undoubtedly necessary and beneficial. It is regrettable, however, that the present education somewhat overlooks this important point.

The Question of the Export Ban on Gold.—The question of liftingt he export embargo on gold is again an important subject of discussion in the Diet in connection with the questions of the fall of the yen and of the raising of the selling price of gold specie. It is fundamentally right to advocate the removal of the ban on gold. But the question now under debate is not such a fundamental problem, the *Tokyo Asahi* argues in its editorial of January 30th, but the practical one whether to lift it at once or unconditionally or in the existing condition of the exchange or after an alleviation of the situation. It is absurd and impractical to demand the lifting of the ban unconditionally and at once, when the exchange shows a heavy fall in the international value of the yen of over 30 per cent. In demanding it, one only looks upon the simple fact that the lifting of the embargo would be followed by the recovery of the yen and no consideration to the question how long it would last and how the abrupt change would badly affect the financial world.

The embargo ought to have been lifted just before the earthquake, when the exchange with America was nearly at par. Were it not that Premier Admiral Kato died and the earthquake occurred, it would have been carried out then, for the Finance Minister Mr. Ichiki was apparently determined in favour of it. The subsequent situation has been anything but to justify the action. The present Finance Minister Mr. Hamaguchi is against it, which he advocated while he was out of office. This may appear to be a contradiction, but the paper is inclined to admit has recantation as reasonable.

A direct cause of the present heavy fall of the exchange is the great excess of imports over exports in 1924, which was compelled by the absolute necessity to import an unusually great amount of goods for the object of re-construction of the quake-stricken districts. Indications are that this tendency will be mitigated somewhat hereafter; and the enhancement of the exchange by a drastic measure at this moment it is feared would encourage the import trade again. On the other hand, the low rate of exchange is benefiting, manifestly, the export trade. This development of the export trade would be hindered by the abrupt rising of the exchange. This is a policy, which the paper cannot support, although the lifting of the gold embargo theoretically legitimate.

We must take the various means necessary for improving our economic situation to such an extent as to allow the quick lifting of the export embargo on gold. In England, the exchange has recovered nearly to the par and the ban on gold is being removed at an early date, due to national efforts made strenuously for bettering the economic situation. The paper hopes for a more concrete, practical and minute study of the question in Japan, until a method truly adaptable to our economic conditions is found and realized, taking a lesson from the sound and deliberate attitude of England toward a similar question.

Responsibility of Great Powers.—England and America are the greatest powers in the world, holding territories covering one-third of the world's total

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area of inhabitable lands and rich in natural resources, notably, iron and coal, with which they stand predominantly above other powers as great industrial and naval countries. The *Osaka Mainichi*, which makes the above statement, considers it almost impossible to see the advent of any country in the near future so powerful as to surpass the above two powers.

These two biggest naval countries are approaching more and more to each other. England is trying to grasp the hegemony of the world, hand in hand with America, by means of financial power and not by military power, upon destroying the German hegemonic system by her policy of the balance of power. This financial power may be made a tool of peace or a weapon of war by its possessor. England and America can thus accomplish anything in the world in acting in concert with each other.

Even if America should join the League of Nations and all the powers in the world form its members, nothing could stop the audacious behaviour of the greater powers, for it is made up of countries with different areas, population, wealth and military power and it is but natural that the most powerful of them can dominate it. It is, therefore, difficult for the League of Nations, which ought to be the most unprejudiced organ for the world's peace, to decide or do anything against the opinion of the greatest powers.

Since it is impossible to restrain the selfish conduct of the greatest powers, the idea that the strong, the first, takes hold of the mind of every body, and so long as this idea is held by the world peoples, nothing good could be accomplished by whatever number of peace protocols made and of disarmament conferences held. In order to make this world absolutely without war, the greatest powers must be called upon to change their present attitude before an attempt is made to complete the organization of the League of Nations. England and America have declared their willingness to use their predominent position on the international stage for promoting the common interest of the human being and not for satisfying their ambitions. The *Osaka Asahi* is incllined to doubt, however, whether they can adhere to their recognized emphatic advocacy of justice and humanity as their hereditary policy to the end. So long as other powers are suspicious no true peace can be hoped for.

In this consideration, we cannot but see the grave responsibility of the greatest powers. The present strong position of the Anglo-Saxon race was got mostly by natural gifts, in addition to the superiority of the race; and their international policy has been established for transmitting these natural gifts to their posterity. This has necessitated their diplomatic double character, which has victimized Japan on the American immigration question. So long as England and America stick to this double characteristic diplomatic policy, they cannot be looked upon as conscious of their responsibility as the greatest powers in the world. For eradicating the root of war, there can be no means but to popularize the idea that the world's human beings are equal and are possessed of equal rights.

The diffusion of this idea must be one of the most important duties of the international co-ordinate system. Japan makes the system the foundation of her diplomatic policy as has been recently spoken of by the Foreign Minister in the Diet. Japan stands far behind England and America as a power; yet she sees her grave responsibility as the greatest power in the Orient and avoids the old fashioned diplomatic policy of double character as far as possible. Whether she can carry out ideally her co-ordinate principle depends upon the attitude of other great powers. In order to insure the world's peace, the thing to be done before the augmentation of the power of the League of Nations should be, in the opinion of the *Osaka Asahi*, to give a true understanding of the international co-ordinate principle to the world's peoples and make them give up the double characteristic diplomacy adhered to by their antiquated statesmen. When this is done, the Anglo-Saxon race will at last receive the respect of the world.

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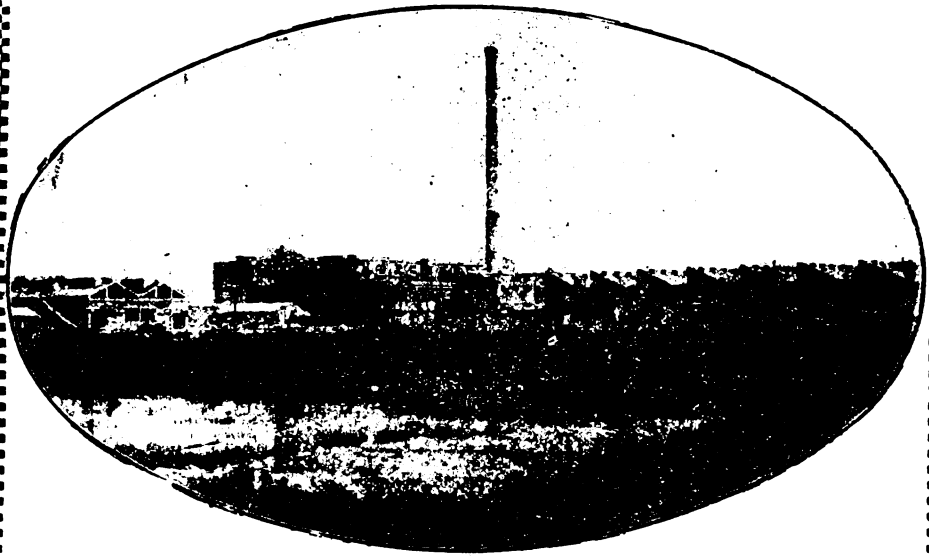

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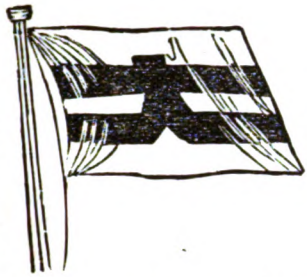

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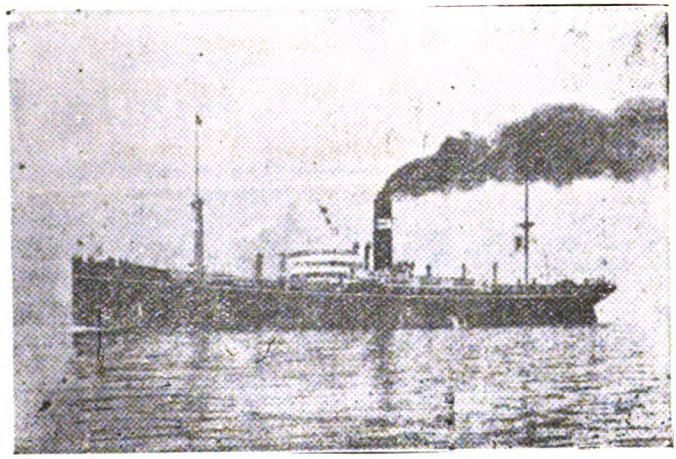

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Japan-North America Lines:

Hongkong-Puget Sound Line: Fortnightly

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